

## Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 /086 W  
----- 042469

R 190712Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2661

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 7005

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, SP, MR, MO, AG

SUBJECT: SAUDI POSITION ON SPANISH-SHARA  
QUESTION

1. IN A MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 15 MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRINCE SAUD BIN FAISAL SAID THAT BOTH THE SPANISH AND MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD SOUGHT URGENT MEETINGS WITH HIM WHILE HE WAS IN NEW YORK FOR THE UNGA TO ASK FOR SAUDI SUPPORT FOR THE POSITIONS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS ON THE SPANISH SAHARA QUESTION.

2. THE SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER WAS PUSHING THE IDEA OF A PLEBESCITE. SAUD SAID HE HAD REPLIED THAT IN NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES SAUDI ARABIA WOULD SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A PLEBESCITE, BUT WHEN--AS IN THE PRESENT INSTANCE--THERE ARE ONLY 30,000 PERSONS INVOLVED, HISTORICAL CLAIMS AND THE INTERESTS OF THOSE IN THE SURROUNDING COUNTRIES ASSUME PRIMARY IMPORTANCE.

3. SAUD SAID THAT HE TOLD THE MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD GIVE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO  
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HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION BUT THAT HE COULD NOT ENCOURAGE

HIM TO EXPECT SAUDI SUPPORT. SAUD THEN TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT DESPITE HIS CAUTIOUS POSITION WITH THE MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER, HE CONSIDERED THE MOROCCAN POSITION TO BE CORRECT. HE ADDED THAT HE FOUND THE MAURITANIAN CLAIM WITHOUT SERIOUS SUBSTANCE AND CONCLUDED THAT THE ISSUE COULD BE EASILY RESOLVED WERE IT NOT FOR THE ALGERIANS.

AKINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFERENDUMS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Draft Date:** 19 OCT 1975  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D750363-0056  
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